

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1                   1. A method for providing an interactive music interface, the method  
2 comprising:  
3                   providing an interactive program guide (IPG) page having included therein  
4 a music icon representative of a topic of music;  
5                   receiving a selection for the music icon; and  
6                   providing the music interface page having included therein a listing of  
7 music channels.

1                   2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                   receiving an indication that a particular music channel has been selected;  
3                   retrieving an audio stream associated with the selected music channel; and  
4                   processing the retrieved audio stream.

1                   3. The method of claim 2, wherein the particular music channel is selected  
2 via depression of a particular key.

1                   4. The method of claim 2, wherein the particular music channel is selected  
2 by movement of a cursor over the music channel.

1                   5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                   receiving an indication that a particular music channel has been  
3 highlighted;  
4                   retrieving an audio stream associated with the highlighted music channel;  
5 and  
6                   processing the retrieved audio stream.

1                   6. The method of claim 5, wherein the particular music channel is  
2 highlighted by movement of a cursor over the music channel.

1                   7. The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
2                   retrieving a data stream associated with the selected music channel;

3 decoding the data stream to retrieve descriptive information for the  
4 selected music channel; and  
5 providing the descriptive information.

1 8. The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
2 retrieving a video stream associated with the selected music channel;  
3 decoding the retrieved video stream; and  
4 providing decoded video for the selected music channel.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the music interface page includes a  
2 plurality of display regions, wherein the selected music channel is included in a music  
3 channel listing that is displayed in a first display region, and wherein the decoded video is  
4 displayed in a second display region.

1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 retrieving one or more objects used to identify the music interface page;  
3 and  
4 providing the retrieved objects at particular locations of the music interface  
5 page.

1 11. An interactive music interface page comprising:  
2 one or more display regions configurable to display a listing of a plurality  
3 of music channels; and  
4 a channel description region configurable to display information for a  
5 particular music channel in the listing.

1 12. The music interface page of claim 11, wherein the music interface  
2 page includes two display regions located side by side to provide two columns of music  
3 channel listing.

1 13. The music interface page of claim 11, wherein each display region is  
2 configurable to display a video in place of the music channel listing previously displayed  
3 in the display region.

1 14. The music interface page of claim 13, wherein the video is associated  
2 with the particular music channel.

1 15. The music interface page of claim 13, wherein the video is encoded as  
2 slices via slice-based encoding.

1 16. The music interface page of claim 11, wherein each display region  
2 includes a background comprised of strips of alternating colors.

1 17. The music interface page of claim 16, wherein the background of  
2 strips is composed as a bitmap.

1 18. The music interface page of claim 16, wherein the bitmap for the  
2 background is pre-loaded to a set top terminal.

1 19. The music interface page of claim 11, further comprising:  
2 a header region configurable to display one or more objects identifying the  
3 music interface page.

1 20. The music interface page of claim 19, wherein at least one object in  
2 the header region is associated with a video.

1 21. The music interface page of claim 20, wherein the video is used to  
2 provide animation of the associated object.

1 22. The music interface page of claim 19, wherein at least one object in  
2 the header region is composed as a bitmap.

1 23. The music interface page of claim 22, wherein the bitmap for each of  
2 the at least one object is encoded and sent via an in-band channel or an out-of-band  
3 channel.

1 24. The music interface page of claim 11, wherein text descriptive of the  
2 music channels in the listing is composed as a bitmap.

1           25. The music interface page of claim 24, wherein the bitmap for the text  
2 of the music channels is encoded and sent via an out-of-band channel.

1           26. The music interface page of claim 24, wherein the bitmap for the text  
2 of the music channels is encoded and sent via an in-band channel.

1           27. The music interface page of claim 11, wherein text descriptive of the  
2 music channels in the listing is coded as slices via slice-based encoding.

1           28. An interactive user interface for a terminal coupled to a server via a  
2 distribution network, the user interface comprising:  
3           a program guide including one or more guide pages rendered and encoded  
4 at the server; and  
5           a music interface linked to the program guide and including at least one  
6 music interface page constructed at the terminal.

1           29. The interactive user interface of claim 28, wherein the at least one  
2 music page is constructed using low-bandwidth data received from the server by the  
3 terminal.

1           30. The interactive user interface of claim 29, wherein the low-bandwidth  
2 data is transmitted via an out-of-band channel of the distribution network.

1           31. The interactive user interface of claim 28, wherein the at least one  
2 music page comprises a striped background.

1           32. The interactive user interface of claim 31, wherein the striped  
2 background is pre-loaded to the terminal.

1           33. The interactive user interface of claim 31, wherein the terminal  
2 overlays text within stripes of the striped background to create listings of available music  
3 content.

1 34. The interactive user interface of claim 28, further comprising:  
2 a link within the at least one music interface page to provide an electronic  
3 commerce opportunity to purchase music content.

1 35. A set top terminal (STT) for receiving programming guide data,  
2 comprising:  
3 a demodulator operative to receive a modulated signal and generate a  
4 transport stream;  
5 a transport de-multiplexer coupled to the demodulator and operative to  
6 receive and process the transport stream to provide a plurality of elementary streams; and  
7 a decoder coupled to the transport de-multiplexer and operative to  
8 decode a first elementary stream to generate an interactive program  
9 guide (IPG) page having included therein a music icon representative of a topic of  
10 music,  
11 provide the IPG page for display,  
12 receive a selection for the music icon, and  
13 provide a music interface page having included therein a listing of  
14 music channels.

1 36. The STT of claim 35, wherein the decoder is further operative to  
2 receive an indication that a particular music channel has been selected,  
3 retrieve an audio stream associated with the selected music channel, and  
4 process the retrieved audio stream.

1 37. The STT of claim 36, wherein the decoder is further operative to  
2 retrieve a data stream associated with the selected music channel,  
3 decode the data stream to retrieve descriptive information for the selected  
4 music channel, and  
5 provide the descriptive information.

1 38. The STT of claim 36, wherein the decoder is further operative to  
2 retrieve a video stream associated with the selected music channel,  
3 decode the retrieved video stream, and  
4 provide decoded video for the selected music channel.